

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/779,753

Examiner

Vincent E. Kovalick

Applicant(s)

KRAJEWSKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment dated 3/31/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 40-54,91-101,122,125,126,132 and 133 (re-numbered 1-31).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/17/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Amendment dated March 31, 2006 in response to USPTO Office Action dated December 14, 2005.

The cancellation of claims 1-39, 55-90, 102-121, 123-124, 127-1341 and 134-137, and the amendment to claim 126 are sufficient to place the application in a condition for allowance as set forth hereinbelow.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 40-54, 91-101, 122, 125-126 and 132-133 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Relative to claim 40, the major difference between the teachings of the prior art of record (USP 4,145,748, Eichelberger et al. ; USP 4,853,498, Meadows et al. and USP 5,977,955, Jaeger) and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** in a touch-screen display system for generating pixel coordinate estimates responsive to a user touching a display screen, an apparatus for enabling detection of a "no touch" state of said touch-screen display system comprising: at least one drive electrically connected to said at least one bus bar to selectively switch said a least one bus bar between at least two of a plurality of electrical potentials; and at least one shunt electrically connected across said at least one driver.

Relative to claim 91, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a touch-screen display system for generating pixel coordinate estimates responsive to a user touching a display

Art Unit: 2629

screen, an apparatus for enabling detection of a “no touch” state of said touch-screen display system comprising: selectively switching at least one reference point of at least one axis of said touch-screen display system between at least two of a plurality of electrical potentials by employing electrical driving techniques and electrical shunting techniques.

Relative to claims 122 and 125, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** an apparatus for determining whether a touch screen has been touched, comprising means for reading a first coordinate of a coordinate pair at a first time and means for consecutively reading the same coordinate at a second time; means for determining if the absolute value of the difference between the first coordinate and the consecutive coordinate is less than a predetermined value; and means, response to the determining means, for quantifying the coordinate position as a function of the first or the consecutive coordinate.

Relative to claims 132 and 133, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a touch-screen display system for generating pixel coordinate estimates responsive to a user touching a display screen, an apparatus for enabling detection of a “no touch” state of said touch-screen display system comprising: at least one bus bar; at least one driver electrically connected to said at least one bus bar to selectively switch said at least one bus bar between at least two of a plurality of electrical potentials wherein the at least one driver is either selected to have an off state impedance establishing a pre-determined discharge rate or is controlled to establish pre-determined discharge rates.

Art Unit: 2629

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Applicant's Remarks

4. Applicant's remarks relative to claims 122 and 125 are rendered moot in light of the allowance of said claims.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|----------------|
| U. S. Patent No. | 5,940,065 | Babb et al. |
| U. S. Patent No. | 4,914,624 | Dunthorn |
| U. S. Patent No. | 4,853,498 | Meadows et al. |

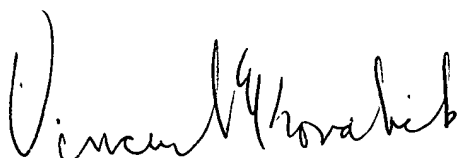
Art Unit: 2629

To Respond


6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent E. Kovalick whose telephone number is 571-272-7669. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30- 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 571-272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Vincent E. Kovalick

May 17, 2006


BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600